

PATENT  
Docket No.: MO06007C1  
10/672,730

AMENDMENTS

TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 10, lines 4-14, beginning with "As shown in Figure 3, the blade holder", with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - As shown in Figure 3, the blade holder 36 may have an outer groove 52. The blade holder 36 may also have a tapered top surface 53 to provide clearance for the pin 32 when the assembly 10 is loaded into the microkeratome 12. The blade holder 36 may be constructed from a plastic material, wherein the outer groove 52 and slot 34 are either molded or machined into the blade holder 36. Referring to Fig. 2, the blade holder 36 can be assembled onto the blade 38 by pushing ~~36~~ the blade holder 36 into the notch 50, so that the edge of the notch 50 extends into the outer groove 52 of the side of the blade holder 36. - -

Please replace the paragraph on page 13, lines 5-14, beginning with "Figure 14 shows another means", with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - Figure 14 shows another means for assembling and calibrating the blade holder 36' to the blade 38'. The blade 38' can be secured to a fixture plate 82 by a couple of pins 90 that extend into the blade notches. A clamp 92 is then coupled to the blade 38. The blade holder 36' is pushed onto the blade 38' until the reference surface 84 abuts against the clamp 92. The distance between the clamp ~~88~~92 and the cutting edge 40 can be accurately controlled to minimize the tolerance between the reference surface 84 and the cutting edge 40. - -